



OFFICE *of the* GOVERNOR

JOHN BEL EDWARDS

Governor's 2016 Regular Legislative Session Successes

CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

SB 324 – Senator J.P. Morrell

- Creates the Raise the Age Act, ensuring that the state holds children accountable for violations of law in age-appropriate settings by including 17-year-olds in Louisiana's juvenile justice system.

HB 475 – Representative Frank Hoffmann

- Reorganizes the Department of Children and Family Services, ensuring the effective delivery of services to children and families of this state.

HEALTH CARE

SB 121 – Senator Yvonne Colomb

- Creates the Louisiana Family Caregiver Act, allowing a patient to designate a caregiver to whom a hospital may give medical and discharge information on the patient, as well as after-care instructions for when the patient is discharged to go home.

HB 606 – Representative Frank Hoffmann

- Prohibits entities that perform abortions from receiving public funding for any purpose.

HIGHER EDUCATION

SB 174 – Senator Jack Donahue

- Fixes TOPS award amounts at the 2016-17 academic year level unless the legislature, by law, increases the award amounts.

SB 470 – Senator Dan Morrish

- Requires that all TOPS awards be reduced by an equal percentage on a pro rata basis in the event that TOPS is not fully funded.

HB 906 – Representative James Armes

- Creates the Success for Homeless and Foster Youth in Higher Education Act, providing for a post-secondary institution to develop a liaison, and potentially housing or residency-status plans, for students who are homeless youth under the age of 25 or who were foster children under the care of DCFS prior to their 18th birthday.

K-12 EDUCATION

SB 260 – Senator Dan Morrish

- Removes the authority of BESE to certify groups as local charter authorizers of Type 1B charter schools, thus limiting the establishment of charter schools to a local school board or BESE.

SB 262 – Senator Dan Morrish

- Provides for a one year delay of accountability during the implementation of revised academic standards adopted by BESE.

SB 420 – Senator Francis Thompson

- Creates a Farm to School Program that will link Louisiana schools to farmers so that schools can buy fresh, locally-grown food for school meals and snacks, promote healthy eating habits for students, and link students to what farming means to Louisiana through farm visits, school gardening programs, and cooking demonstrations at school.

SB 477 – Senator Gerald Boudreaux

- Reduces from 50% to 35% the portion of a teacher's evaluation based on performance measures.

OMV INSTALLMENT PLANS

HB 245 – Representative Denise Marcelle

- Allows installment plan methods of payment for debts owed to Office of Motor Vehicles, such as penalties for allowing car insurance to lapse, etc.

REAL ID

SB 227 – Senator Yvonne Colomb, and

HB 702 – Representatives Jimmy Harris and Terry Landry

- Requires the Department of Public Safety to provide for the option of issuing driver's licenses and special identification cards that are compliant with the standard of the REAL ID Act of 2005.